

Program Bulletin

93.12

8-20-93

REVISED AFLATOXIN MONITORING PROGRAM

Effective August 20, 1993, the Quality Control and Testing Branch (QCTB), Quality Assurance and Research Division (QARD), will implement a quarterly aflatoxin check sample program for all specified service points and laboratories. Regardless of the testing technology used (TLC and/or test kits), QCTB will send service points quarterly aflatoxin check samples. The quarterly aflatoxin check samples replace the current monitoring program.

QCTB will: 1) prepare and distribute two sets of check samples each quarter to all official aflatoxin testing locations, 2) immediately notify field locations if the test results indicate a problem, and 3) release a quarterly summary report to all participating laboratories. Field offices are responsible for follow up action to assure all laboratories in their circuit provide accurate results.

Effective immediately, discontinue sending aflatoxin monitoring samples to the QCTB, QARD, in Kansas City and the Beltsville Commodity Testing Laboratory.

Retain this information with the Aflatoxin Handbook and notify specified service points providing aflatoxin testing service in your circuit. We are revising the Aflatoxin Handbook to reflect this change.

Please direct any questions regarding this program bulletin to the Quality Control and Testing Branch or Standards and Procedures Branch.

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